

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Griffin, Georgia will conduct public hearings on Tuesday, August 22, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in their Workshop and at 6:00 p.m. in their Regular Scheduled Meeting for the purpose of receiving public comment on a proposal to amend the Charter of the City of Griffin, 2004 Ga. Laws, p. 4232, as amended, to change the title of the At-Large Commissioner to “MAYOR”, with the duty to preside over all meetings of the Commission and perform the other traditional duties of a Mayor as now performed by the Commission Chairperson. Both hearings will be held in the W. Elmer George Municipal Hall, One Griffin Center, 2d Floor, 100 S. Hill Street, Griffin, GA 30223.

The present Charter provides for an elected governing body, under a “Commission-Manager” form of government. Commissioners are elected from 6 single-member districts, apportioned based upon population, and an At-Large Commissioner. The Chairperson is elected annually by the Commission and cannot succeed himself. The Chairperson appoints a Chairperson *pro tem* on an annual basis to serve during his absence or disability.

The proposed Charter change, to be introduced as a local or special act of the General Assembly at its 2018 General Session, would retain the present form of government. The title of the At-Large Commissioner would change to MAYOR; the Mayor would retain all duties of the At-Large Commissioner, and would serve as the Commission’s presiding officer, performing those added duties now vested in its Chairperson. The Mayor would annually appoint a Mayor *pro tem*.

If local legislation is approved by the General Assembly, a referendum will be conducted for all qualified City electors, in conjunction with the Statewide Primary Election to be held May 22, 2018, to consider the Charter amendment. If approved by a majority of the electors voting in the referendum, candidates for Mayor would run in the General Municipal Election (Non-Partisan), to be held November 6, 2018, for a four (4) year term, commencing effective January 1, 2019.

A draft of the proposed amendment is available for inspection and copying in the City Manager's office, One Griffin Center, 3rd Floor, during regular office hours.

Citizens and electors desiring to comment on the proposed Charter change may attend either hearing and address the Commission, or comments may be filed, in writing, with Executive Secretary Teresa Watson prior to close of business on August 22, 2017, either in person, by mail addressed to: P. O. Box T, Griffin, GA 30224, or by email addressed to: twatson@cityofgriffin.com.

It is the policy of the City of Griffin to ensure that communications with participants and members of the public with disabilities are as effective as communications with others. The City will make reasonable accommodations where necessary to afford an individual with a disability an equal opportunity to participate in, and enjoy the benefits of, any program, service, or activity conducted by the City, including its public hearings. Persons desiring accommodation should contact ADA Coordinator Miles Neville, at (770) 233-2923 as far in advance of the hearing as possible.

NOTE: Run as a display ad in The Griffin Daily News editions of August 11 & 18, 2017.